



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

"INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT"

APPLICANT(S): Klaus DIETRICH et al ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. P00,1896
SERIAL NO.: 09/768,699 GROUP ART UNIT: 2161
FILED: January 24, 2001
TITLE: **"POSTAGE METER MACHINE AND SECURITY MODULE
THEREFOR"**

Assistant Commissioner For Patents,
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.56, Applicants respectfully request that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

Reference AL - European Application 0 859 340

Reference AM - European Application 0 789 333

Reference AN - PCT Application WO 99/66422

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

References AL and AN were cited in a Search Report rendered by the European Patent Office during examination of the European application corresponding to the present United States application. A copy of the European Search Report is submitted herewith.

Reference AM was identified and discussed at pages 1 and 2 of the present specification.

An English translation of Reference AL is not readily available to the Applicants, however, the statements in the specification constitute a summary of its teachings.

Copies of each of the above references together with Form 1449 are submitted herewith.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a First Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken single or in combination. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

 (Reg. No. 28,982)

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231 on June 25, 2001.

Steven H. Noll

Name of Applicants' Attorney

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Signature

June 25, 2001

Date